

CLAIMS

1. A vang assembly (10) for manipulating a sailboat boom (16) in which a supporting part is hingedly connectable to the lower portion of a sailboat mast (12) with first end portion hingedly attachable to the lower portion of the mast (12) below the boom, and the second end portion hingedly attached to a traveller (26) sliding on track (30) fixable to the boom (16) at a location spaced outwardly from the lower portion of the mast (12), characterized in that:
said supporting part is a rigid unextensible strut (20) and
said traveller (26) fore and aft movements are controlled by adjustment means.
Adjustment means to pull traveller (26) forward (toward the mast), so to force boom (16) upwarly and to pull traveller (26) aftward (opposite the mast), so to force boom (16) downward.
2. A vang assembly as specified in claim 1 in which the rigid unextensible strut is an hollow profile.
3. A vang assembly as specified in claim 2 in which the adjustment means are block and tackle assemblies, positioned inside the hollow strut.
4. A vang assembly as specified in claim 3 in which for block and tackle system that pull traveller forward (toward the mast) a dynamic type rope is used.
5. A vang assembly as specified in claim 2 in which the strut is made with a wing contour type section profile to reduce wind drag.
6. A vang assembly as specified in claim 1 in which the adjustment means are block and tackle assemblies attached to the traveller and to the aft end and forward end of track.
7. A vang assembly as specified in claim 6 in which an hollow track allow aftward pulling rope to return toward the mast passing inside the track.
8. A vang assembly as specified in claim 6 in which for block and tackle system that pull traveller forward (toward the mast) a dynamic type rope is used.
9. A vang assembly as specified in claim 6 in which the strut is made with a wing contour type section profile to reduce wind drag
10. A vang assembly (200) for manipulating a sailboat boom (216) comprising a soft

block and tackle vang (270) independently connectable both to the boom (216) and to the mast (212) to force boom (216) downward and a supporting part with first end portion hingedly attachable to the lower portion of the mast (212) below the boom, and the second end portion hingedly attached to a traveller (226) sliding on track (230) fixable to the boom (216) at a location spaced outwardly from the lower portion of the mast (212), characterized in that:

said supporting part is a rigid unextensible strut (220) and

said traveller (226) fore movements are controlled by adjustment means.

Adjustment means to pull traveller (226) forward (toward the mast), so to force boom (216) upwarly.

11. A vang assembly as specified in claim 10 in which the adjustment means to control traveller in forward movement (toward the mast) is a block and tackle assembly.
12. A vang assembly as specified in claim 10 in which for block and tackle system that pull traveller forward (toward the mast) a dynamic type rope is used.
13. A vang assembly as specified in claim 10 in which the strut is made with a wing contour type section profile to reduce wind drag.